

Welcome to the Legislative Update for June 14, 2013

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The **Legislative Update** is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!
Special Session Called

On Tuesday, June 11th, the Governor called a special session; a copy of the proclamation is found [here](#).

On Thursday, June 13th, the budget that included Medicaid Expansion passed and the Special Session ended on the 13th.

Note: the budget bills are found in the **Special Session List** linked here:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25169&listid=49249&print=true>

The Governor's press release regarding the work of the special session is provided [here](#).

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee**
Special Session Budget

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/specialsessionbudget061313.pdf>

First Regular Session of the 51st Legislature Ends

The 51st Regular Session adjourned sine die in the early hours today, Friday, June 14th.

1,158 bills posted, 282 bills passed; 201 bills signed; 17 vetoed; 76 memorials or resolutions posted and 20 passed.

More than 40 bills were passed on the last days of the session. (No significant aging related legislation was included in that group.) The Governor has 10 days to sign the bills, allow the bills to become law without signature or veto the bills.

The complete list of legislation tracked by the Council this session is provided below. Bill summaries and actions taken are posted on the list.

FULL LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24960&listid=47124&print=true>

Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking lists *does not represent support or opposition* by the Council to that bill. It **does** mean

that the bill was likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

Important to note: The **web report above** provides you with the final status of bills tracked by the Council. Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the **Arizona Capitol Times**.

If you want to learn more about the legislative process, see [Arizona Bill](#) or **From Idea To Bill To Law, The Legislative Process in Arizona** linked [here](#).

Share your thoughts! If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, **you may voice your thoughts at any time** by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only)

- Or **contacting your legislator from your area**...locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

- **Not sure about your district? District maps** can be found on the website linked [here](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

H.R.2167

Reverse Mortgage Stabilization Act of 2013

Introduced on 5/23/2013 by Representative Denny Heck (WA-10)

Reverse Mortgage Stabilization Act of 2013

Amends the National Housing Act, with respect to mortgage insurance for home equity conversion mortgages (reverse mortgages) of elderly homeowners, to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to establish, by notice or mortgagee letter, any additional or alternative requirements determined necessary to improve the fiscal safety and soundness of the reverse mortgage program.

Declares that such requirements shall take effect upon issuance.

On 6/13/2013, H.R.2167 was referred to Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

S.1119**Positive Aging Act of 2013**

Introduced on 6/7/2013 by Senator Susan M. Collins (ME)

Positive Aging Act of 2013

Amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to make grants to public and private nonprofit entities to: (1) demonstrate ways of integrating mental health services for older adults into primary care settings, and (2) support the establishment and maintenance of interdisciplinary geriatric mental health outreach teams in community settings where older adults reside or receive social services.

Requires the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services to designate a Deputy Director for Older Adult Mental Health Services to develop and implement initiatives to address the mental health needs of older adults.

Includes representatives of older adults or their families and geriatric mental health professionals on the Advisory Council for the Center.

Directs the Secretary to give special consideration to providing treatment for older adults with substance abuse disorders when developing program priorities for addressing priority substance abuse treatment needs of regional and national significance.

Requires state plans for community mental health services grants to describe: (1) the state's outreach to, and services for, older individuals, individuals who are homeless, and individuals living in rural areas; and (2) how community-based services will be provided to these individuals.

On 6/7/2013, the bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

S.RES.171**A resolution designating June 15, 2013, as "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day"**

Introduced on 6/13/2013 by Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT)

6/13/2013 Passed/agreed to in Senate. Status: Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

Sequestration continues

Administration for Community Living estimation of sequester cuts' impact is linked [here](#).

Check on active federal legislation at:

http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/legislative/b_three_sections_with_teasers/active_leg_page.htm.

NOTE: If you want information specific to a bill, go to the **Thomas** website (<http://thomas.loc.gov/>) and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status* or check **Congress.gov United States Legislative Information** at: <http://beta.congress.gov/>.

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting:
<http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the Senate.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

ALSO: A compilation of contact information is provided at:
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

OTHER NEWS

From the **National Council on Aging**

Facts on Elder Abuse is available [here](#).

From the **ACL News & Information, Monday, June 10, 2013**
Oral Health Webinar

The Cross-Federal webinar titled *Older Adults and Oral Health: Inspiring Community-Based Partnerships for Healthy Mouths*, is now posted on the [Administration on Aging's Oral Health Webpage](#) and the [Health Resources and Services Administration's Oral Health Webpage](#).

This webinar explored the oral health status of older adults in the U.S., provided useful resources and highlighted two innovative community approaches to improving oral health access for older adults.

National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease

Health and Human Services today released the **National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease: 2013 Update** <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/NatlPlan2013.shtml>, a follow-up to the initial plan released in May 2012.

From the **Sloan Center on Aging and Work at Boston College AGenda Aging & Work Blog** *Adapting to a World Without Job* is provided at:

<http://agingandwork.bc.edu/blog/adapting-to-a-world-without-jobs/>

From the **National Association of State United for Aging and Disability**

Friday Updates, June 14, 2013

New Report on Challenges and Opportunities within the Information and Referral/Assistance Networks

"The [National Aging and Disability Information and Referral/Assistance Support Center](#), administered by **NASUAD** with funding provided by the Administration on Aging, within the Administration for Community Living recently released the report, [Aging and Disability Information and Referral/Assistance Networks: Challenges and Opportunities](#). This report documents the findings of a 2012 nationwide, survey of 294 I&R/A workers from state agencies on aging and disability; Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs); Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs); Centers for Independent Living (CILs); 2-1-1s; and other non-profit human service organizations. Several themes emerged from the survey data: Theme 1: Aging and disability networks continue to integrate; Theme 2: The use of technology in I&R/A service delivery has been slow to develop; Theme 3: The role of I&R/A organizations is expanding; and Theme 4: There are opportunities for improved coordination and quality service within I&R/A service delivery.

The report stressed that in a time of ongoing fiscal restraint, integrating and expanding service systems, and evolving technologies, the Aging and Disability I&R/A Network must continue to cultivate partnerships and opportunities that support the organizations' ability to provide person-centered access to I&R/A services. The report also represents a baseline for similar surveys in the future, and an opportunity for the Support Center to engage in increased partnership development with the disability community, 2-1-1s and other providers of I&R/A to older adults and people with disabilities."

From **Kaiser Health News**

Panel [report](#) on Medicare penalties of hospitals serving the poor

Press release from the **Arizona Department of Economic Security** regarding **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day** is provided at: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/qaca/Newsletter/2013/ElderAbuseAwarenessPressRelease.pdf> and **Director Carter's** weekly **blog** that focuses on raising awareness of elder abuse in Arizona is provided [here](#).

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

The **Caregiver Connection** providing resources for northern Arizona is linked [here](#).

Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/qaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

Now that the legislative session has ended, the **Legislative Update** will be provided on a monthly basis with a focus on any federal action as well as information and resources to share.

Enjoy your summer!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging